

OXC-2839
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22 December 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : OXCART Briefing of Mr. John Stack, Director of Aeronautics Research, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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1. On 21 December 1961 the undersigned, in company with [redacted] [redacted] Mr. John Parangosky, and [redacted] and in the presence of Dr. Hugh Dryden, Deputy Administrator, NASA, briefed Mr. John Stack on Project OXCART. This briefing was in order in view of Dr. Dryden's earlier nomination of Mr. Stack as the working level group member of the so-called SUMAR Committee being formalized to support OXCART cover.

2. Mr. Stack read the cover story carefully and seemed impressed by it. There was a lengthy discussion of a wide range of topics bearing on the uses of OXCART and the relationship between the A-12 and actual programs of research underway in the SST field.

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3. [redacted] paid particular attention to the technical details of OXCART and gave both Mr. Stack and Dr. Dryden a very thorough briefing on problem-solving in technical areas. Mr. Stack's response was somewhat characteristic; he said that he would immediately draw up a list of program objectives applicable to the X-19 and would submit these to us as soon as possible. He said that these were in fact valid objectives of NASA which could presumably be met by a vehicle of this sort were the SUMAR Committee to be an actual functioning entity. I feel certain that he is hopeful that there will be considerable technical fallout germane to some of his own problems.

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4. Several times during the discussion [redacted] made repeated points about the security of the OXCART Project and the classification of technical results derived from the Program. Mr. Parangosky forecast an early meeting of the principal working group members for the purpose of delineating proper responses to potential technical inquiries, and this meeting would presumably include Mr. Stack, Mr. Maurer of Navy, Colonel Andre of Air Force,

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Dr. Fubini of DOD/R&E, and Colonel Rochte of FAA. We all gained the impression that given proper control of his enthusiasms Mr. Stack could be an extremely valuable addition to SUMAR.

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